

The Wall Street jackals, well, they are just thrilled with the stock price. Warren Buffet was bragging on making \$6 billion last quarter with BNSF, which has become the most abusive railroad in the system. They used to be the best. They were the star. I don't know what happened.

Last week, we had to legislate here on the floor of the House. 115,000 rail workers had gone 3 years without a contract. The railroads were intransigent. They couldn't afford pay raises. What? Oh, and no paid sick time. Oh, we couldn't do that.

They testified to the Presidential Emergency Board that record profits were not due to "any contributions by labor." I guess the trains run and maintain themselves.

Despite massive layoffs and a 600 percent increase in productivity of the remaining workforce, I guess it is their just fabulous business acumen that is making all this money.

Because they cut the workforce to the bone, they are particularly adamant that there can be no paid sick time—well, no sick time at all, in fact. They are forcing workers to come to work sick and fatigued in an industry where one little mistake will lose you a limb or might cause a catastrophic accident. There is a 60 percent increase in the violations of time by the railroads.

If they gave all the workers 7 days paid leave, it would take 1 cent off of their profits, 1 cent per dollar of those profits.

Last week, the House voted to lock in the tentative agreements that provide historic pay raises and guarantee reimbursement for work expenses, and they prevented a massive disruption. In addition, 221 Members of the House voted to impose 7 days of paid sick leave—with only three Republicans. Pretty pathetic, guys. Pretty pathetic.

Congress took action because we recognized who makes this country great, who makes it run. It is frontline workers. Without them, just under one-third of our country's freight would sit idle.

It is time for the railroads to face the music. Precision scheduled railroading is an abject failure. Your service is atrocious. You treat your workers with no respect. Don't come crying to the Federal Railroad Administration and Congress to bail you out for your ineptitude, greed, and profit taking. If you can't provide your workers with paid sick time because you don't have enough people working, well, then, maybe the CEOs could take a shift in the rail yard to cover them.

It is time for this to end. Unfortunately, it didn't last week because the Senate overrode us.

I thank my staff who worked so hard on this legislation last week: Auke Mahar-Piersma, Andrea Wohleber, Frances Bourne, Katherine Ambrose, Alice Koethe, Jill Harrelson, Kathy Dedrick, and all the other fabulous members of my team.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

## RECOGNIZING THE BOONE AND CHURCH BAND

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize four members of the Boone and Church Band, who recently won the 95th Annual Future Farmers of America (FFA) National Convention Talent Competition in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Jaxton Boone, Ethan Church, Eli Church, and Walker Boone performed before a crowd of 62,000 at the convention and came away with a resounding victory, and they were the only applicants from North Carolina.

What is most impressive, Mr. Speaker, is the backgrounds of these young men. Eli, Ethan, and Jaxton are all current high school students, and Walker is a full-time college student.

Two others associated with the Boone and Church Band deserve recognition: Colton Boone, another recent high school graduate balancing college courses with a full-time job, and Lynn Church, a father who manages the group.

The six-member group has traveled across western North Carolina since 2016 and has performed at church services, fairs, and even festivals.

Mr. Speaker, I had the great fortune of hearing them this weekend at the Avery County Historical Museum, and I saw firsthand how great they are. While they make beautiful music, they also really enjoy themselves as they perform. It was so uplifting to be there to see that.

Their caliber of talent is awe-inspiring, Mr. Speaker. Based on the variety of songs that they perform, they use 10 different instruments, such as a banjo, mandolin, fiddle, and piano, to name a few.

Together, they blend a variety of music styles, including bluegrass and southern gospel. But what is truly magnificent, aside from their wonderful talents, is how these musicians live the truth found within the gospel every single day. The lives they lead and their relationship with God is directly reflected in the music they share with so many people.

Truly, they are a shining example of what makes western North Carolina so great.

Congratulations, again, to the Boone and Church Band on this wonderful accomplishment.

May God continue to bless them and their great work.

## SAVE FRANCHISEES

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, the Biden administration's destructive regulatory agenda is jeopardizing the franchise model. President Biden will stop at nothing to advance big labor's agenda, even if it means harming workers. The Biden administration is working overtime to shove as many workers as possible into unions, regardless of worker preference.

The Biden administration's proposed joint employer rule will fundamentally destroy the franchise model by taking autonomy away from individual franchise owners, depriving them of the ability to run their own businesses.

Being able to own a franchise business, like a fast-food restaurant, is a ticket to the American Dream, especially for women and minorities.

Americans who invested their time and energy into building a business do not deserve to have it snatched away all because President Biden wants to appease big labor.

To save the American Dream for these businessowners and promote better opportunities for our entire workforce, Republicans will oppose this dangerous power grab. Instead, we will support policies that put workers and job creators first.

□ 1215

## RECOGNIZING OLEH SHTEFANCHUK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Oleh, or "Odee," Shtefanchuk from Chernivtsi, Ukraine.

Odee is currently a foreign exchange student who is studying at WACO Community High School in Wayland, Iowa.

Growing up, Odee heard of American football, and when he enrolled at WACO Community High School, his friends convinced him to try out for the football team.

Even though Odee is still learning the rules and procedures, he has been instrumental in leading the Warriors in an undefeated season and an appearance in the State title game.

I thank the coaches, the faculty, and the students of WACO Community High School for showing Odee why Iowa is the best place to work, live, play, and raise a family.

I would also acknowledge December 7 as Pearl Harbor Day, a day that we should long remember as it cements to us the importance of our rights under our Constitution.

## RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 16 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

## AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CARSON) at 2 p.m.

## PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

God, our creator, from the beginning of time You have shown mercy to Your people. You have restored the fortunes of those who, time and again, have wasted Your bounty. You have forgiven Your people who over and over, turn their will from Yours. You have set aside Your wrath and spared us, yet again, the full measure of Your anger.

Like children, we sheepishly return to You hoping that You will still show Your love to us. Feeble are our oaths to follow Your will for us, and yet we dare to ask that You save us from our mistakes. O God, our savior, we desperately hope that You will put away Your displeasure and revive us again.

Despite our shortcomings and disingenuous ways, draw us near to You that we may rejoice again in You. Cause us to pause and listen for Your word. Inspire us to recommit ourselves to believe again in Your promises. Be gracious unto us, and give us what is good, that our land, our work, and our lives will yield a harvest befitting Your mercy.

May faithfulness spring forth from the Earth and may Your righteousness go with us and guide our steps.

In your saving name we pray.

Amen.

## THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. SEMPOLINSKI) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SEMPOLINSKI led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

## CONGRESS MUST PASS THE MOMNIBUS IMMEDIATELY

(Ms. UNDERWOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. UNDERWOOD. In October, new data showed how maternal health outcomes worsened during the pandemic. The number of maternal deaths in 2021 was nearly 80 percent higher than in 2018, with Black and Hispanic Americans experiencing the largest increases.

This is a crisis—and the Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act is the solution to that crisis.

The evidence-based investments in the momnibus will comprehensively address the drivers of maternal mortality, morbidity, and disparities.

Recently, 140 Members of Congress signed on to a letter calling for key momnibus provisions to be included in an end-of-year package, and a new poll found that passing the momnibus is the number one legislative priority for voters for the end of the year, with a majority of support from Democrats, Independents, and Republicans.

We must get this done. Congress must pass the momnibus immediately. Moms and families don't have any more time to wait.

## ENERGY CRISIS

(Mr. SEMPOLINSKI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SEMPOLINSKI. Mr. Speaker, today I share the concerns of my friends and neighbors in the 23rd District of New York, who have told me about their struggles just to get by due to this administration's reckless and disastrous policies.

President Biden's radical agenda has created an energy crisis that hurts every American. In the last 12 months, over a third of American households have sacrificed basic necessities so they could pay an energy bill. Unfortunately, this will only worsen as the Energy Information Administration projects that families will spend a 25-year high for their energy this winter.

As Americans deal with the burden of higher energy prices and out-of-control inflation, the so-called Inflation Reduction Act added more restrictions on Federal oil and gas leasing.

For the good of the American people and the safety of our Nation, we must act now. Open our domestic oil and gas leases and stop the burdensome regulations that are an assault on U.S. energy development.

I represent one of the most beautiful areas of America, but one that gets very cold in the winter. This is a life-or-death issue for those of limited means in the district I represent.

## CONGRATULATING LARRY EVANS

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Larry Evans for his recent selection to the Georgia 40 Under 40 list.

Larry Evans is a successful attorney, who focuses on civil litigation matters for clients ranging in size from small, local businesses all the way to Fortune 500 companies.

While many who pursue a profession as demanding as his are unable to find a balance between work and life, Larry has been able to strike that balance wonderfully. His drive to contribute to

the greater good has led him to serve on the boards of the Savannah Center for the Blind and Low Vision and Junior Achievement of Georgia. Both of these charities are focused, high-impact programs for students in the areas of financial literacy and career readiness. These programs also focus on fostering an entrepreneurial spirit in the youth of the First District of Georgia.

Larry also holds a deep reverence for the outdoors and would rather be outside than nearly anywhere else. He regularly spends time running, hiking, paddling, and connecting with nature.

A true example of someone who works hard and fully commits to everything he does, Larry Evans is someone we can all look up to.

I, on behalf of the entire First District of Georgia, congratulate him for his outstanding service to this State and his selection to the Georgia 40 Under 40 list.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

## DATA MAPPING TO SAVE MOMS' LIVES ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 198) to require the Federal Communications Commission to incorporate data on maternal health outcomes into its broadband health maps, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 198

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

## SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Data Mapping to Save Moms' Lives Act".

## SEC. 2. MAPPING BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY AND MATERNAL HEALTH OUTCOMES.

(a) INCORPORATION OF MATERNAL MORTALITY AND SEVERE MATERNAL MORBIDITY DATA.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Communications Commission shall incorporate publicly available data on maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity, including for not less than 1 year postpartum, into the Mapping Broadband Health in America platform of the Commission.

(b) CONSULTATION WITH CDC.—The Federal Communications Commission shall consult with the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention regarding the maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity data that should be incorporated under subsection (a).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) each will control 20 minutes.